

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Overview of main development results in Rwanda in 2014

Summary Multi Annual Strategic Plan (MASP)

The Dutch embassy's bilateral programme in Rwanda is an integral part of the regional approach to the Great Lakes. Rwanda's vision for 2020 and the new poverty reduction strategy are ambitious. The role of government is still dominant and there is a need to increase the role of the private sector and protect civil liberties. Liberalisation of the economy should also lead to major changes in the country's political structure. Rwanda is a low-income country that needs to undergo rapid economic transformation to a modern, service-oriented, urban society. Much-needed jobs will help maintain social stability, which also requires inclusive policies, a gradual opening up of political space and a more legitimate judiciary.

Priority themes

- Food security
- Security and rule of law
- Water

Embassy contribution to changes at country level

The embassy financially supported improvements to rural access roads, access to electricity and raising farmers' incomes through better market access. Concerted efforts were made to combat the stunting of children and the demographic health survey showed initial signs of improvement.

Five business projects have been realised through the use of Dutch business instruments or embassy support. Thirty Dutch companies took part in a trade mission to Rwanda led by Minister Lilianne Ploumen.

The embassy supported the formal adoption of a legal aid strategy and more conflict resolution through mediation instead of legal proceedings. It also supported reconciliation in local communities and social therapy to enhance social cohesion in the aftermath of 1994 genocide.

The embassy supported Supreme Court infrastructure improvements and provided materials for witness protection and the genocide refugee tracking unit.

The embassy monitored closely the development of the Rwanda Media Council and its independent role following recent events. The Embassy continued to support initiatives to promote independent media.

An agreement was reached to start an integrated water management programme. After an international tender the contract was awarded and the project team will start work in 2015. As co-chair of the Water Working Group, the embassy plays a significant role in improving the policy dialogue.

Clarifications of results achieved

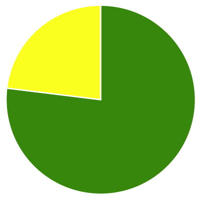
Largely national plans and the implementation of the bilateral programme are on track. However economic growth remains under the target set by the ongoing poverty reduction strategy: 7% versus 11.5%. Job creation, especially for young people in rural areas, remains a big challenge. Poverty and stunting of children are declining slowly but the pace should accelerate.

Implications for planning

In some projects implementation was delayed due to lengthy procedures for tendering and awarding contracts. The embassy has stepped up joint monitoring of government agencies together with the finance ministry.

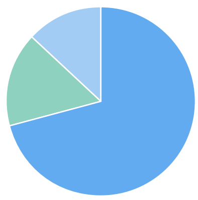
Expenditures 2014 per theme

Total expenditure Embassy €38,179,000



- Food security 77%
- Security and rule of law 23%

Expenditures 2014 per channel



- Government 71%
- NGO 16%
- Multilateral 13%

Developments in Rwanda

On track | Progress, but not on track | No progress

Development	Status
Improved access to markets for farmers through investment at local level that raises their income and food security	On track
A better business climate and private sector development	On track
Increased access to justice and legal reforms	On track
Stronger performance by the judiciary	On track
Greater freedom for more independent media through reforms to media laws	No progress
More dialogue on integrated water management with all stakeholders in Rwanda	On track